

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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51
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 DRC-01 /168 W
----- 056815

P 271654Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2828

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 1711

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, VE
SUBJ: ENERGY: VENEZUELA CONSIDERING WHETHER TO INCREASE
OIL PRICES FOR MONTH OF MARCH

1. UNCLASSIFIED EL NACIONAL CARRIES FRONT PAGE EXCLUSIVE
STORY IN WHICH FINANCE MINISTER OBERTO CONFIRMED REPORTS OBTAINED
FROM LOWER TECHNICAL OFFICIALS IN MINISTRIES OF MINES AND HYDRO-
CARBONS AND FINANCE THAT VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING
SOME INCREASE IN TAX REFERENCE VALUE OF PETROLEUM FOR MONTH
OF MARCH, BASED ON INCREASE IN TANKER COSTS ON WORLD MARKET.
OBERTO SAID HE AND MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS ARE
MEETING THIS AFTERNOON (WEDNESDAY) TO DECIDE WHETHER TO MAKE
INCREASE OR NOT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. OIL COMPANY OFFICIALS WITH WHOM
EMBASSY TALKED OVER HOLIDAY WEEKEND AND THIS MORNING HAVE
ALTHOUGH SOME SUSPECT SMALL INCREASE WILL BE MADE.
NO INKLING OF PROBABLE DECISION. ACTUAL DECISION OBVIOUSLY
IS BEING MADE AT HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL, AND CANNOT BE PREDICTED
AT THIS TIME. WE BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE NO POINT IN OUR TRYING
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TO INFLUENCE THEIR DECISION, SINCE THEY KNOW WORLD PETROLEUM

SITUATION AND U.S. ATTITUDES QUITE WELL.
MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRESS COMMENTS, PRICES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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